

MUSIC'S PART IN CHRISTMAS

CAROL SINGING HAS RECEIVED IMPETUS IN CITY THIS YEAR

By LEE SOMERS.

WHAT would Christmas be without music? As the years pass it becomes increasingly evident that a Christmas without music nowadays would hardly be considered Christmas at all.

Churches everywhere put forth their best efforts at the holiday season to make their services attractive. The masters contribute their finest works, and the choirs give them the best interpretation of which they are capable. Incidentally, Washington has some exceptionally talented soloists and instrumentalists who appear each week in its churches.

This year carol singing has received a new impetus, and this pleasing old custom will be revived in many parts of the city tonight.

It is at Christmas time that "The Messiah" comes into its own. This famous oratorio has already been heard here once this holiday season; it was presented Monday evening at the Masonic Auditorium by the Washington Choral Society, and soloists and chorus alike deserve the warmest praise for the splendid manner in which they gave the work.

On Thursday next it will be presented again, this time by the Choral Art Society at Central High School. On this occasion there will be an orchestral accompaniment, by the Washington College of Music orchestra. It promises to be an exceptionally interesting performance.

The Christmas season sees each year tremendous additions to musical literature. Cantatas, songs, anthems and instrumental pieces appropriate to the time are made available to the public in a periodic tidal wave that has now just passed its crest. There is certainly no reason for lacking new music, but there may be difficulty in making a selection.

The organ gets its share of these works, perhaps more than its share. Certainly, the compositions for the organ stand out rather strongly in the mass. As a whole, they probably exhibit more originality and charm than those in other categories.

A few news notes of musical interest: Muratore, it is said, has undergone a second operation for appendicitis. • • • Toscanini, heard here with his famous La Scala orchestra two seasons ago, has become involved in political squabbles because he wouldn't play the Fascist anthem. • • • Melba is keeping away from Dublin till they find out "what's all the shootin' fer." • • • A vigorous and hopeful movement for American opera has been launched in Chicago, and John Adam Hugo's "The Temple Dancer" has been presented there. This opera was first given at the Metropolitan in 1919. • • • The People's Symphony, now in its third season in Boston, is proving more popular than ever. • • • We are to hear, this week, Bauer and Casals, in the City Club course-time, Saturday evening.

MRS. ANNA M. HIRSCH, librarian of the National Federation of Music Clubs, has been in Washington this past week, in connection with her work with that organization. She is directing the work of a committee composed of the chairmen of library extension in each State, and under these are the club chairmen of library extension. The object of the work is to establish a music section in every library in the United States. The president of the American Library Association has notified the committee of his readiness to cooperate, and he is particularly interested in aiding the music students of the small towns.

The Michigan Library Association has agreed to assist and the Texas Library Association has adopted a resolution urging that a part of library funds in that State be devoted to the purchase of books on music.

"Where libraries cannot afford or do not wish to buy books on music, the clubs are purchasing them and only asking for a shelf to place them on," she informs the Times-Herald.

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Casals and Bauer In Joint Recital On Saturday Next

Second Concert To Be Given in City Club Series.

HAROLD BAUER, the pianist, and **PABLO CASALS**, the famous cellist, will be heard in joint recital at the second concert in the City Club series at the City Club next Saturday evening, December 30, at 8 o'clock, under the management of Mrs. Wilson-Greene.

Harold Bauer's position among the foremost pianists of the day rests on a very firm foundation. He has always won his audiences by his mastery of the technical difficulties of his art, his fine poetic insight, his splendid musicianship, and his extraordinary power of interpretation.

Pablo Casals is considered by many as the world's greatest cellist. Fritz Kreisler says "He is the greatest musician that has ever drawn a bow."

The program will include: "Sonata in A major" (Beethoven); Allegro Scherzo, Adagio-Allegro; "Ballade in F major" (Chopin); "Scherzo in C major" (Chopin); "Suite in C major" (Bach); Prelude, Allemande, Courant, Sarabande, Gigue; "Sonata in A minor" (Grieg); Allegro Agitato, Andante molto tranquillo, Allegro.

The remaining tickets are on sale at Mrs. Wilson-Greene's concert bureau in Droop's, Thirteenth and G streets.

First Church Will Hear Two Cantatas

FOR Christmas music at the First Congregational Church morning service today the vested choir of sixty voices, assisted by the quartet, will sing carols. The morning music will also include a soprano solo and an anthem by the choir and quartet. Dudley Buck's Christmas cantata, "The Coming of the King," will be presented at the vespers service at 4:45 by the choir and quartet.

The evening service will be opened by the choir processionally carrying lighted candles. The chorus and quartet will render John Brewer's Christmas cantata "The Holy Night."

Church Announces Christmas Music

CHRISTMAS music at the Church of Our Father, Universalist, will include: Organ prelude, "The Coming of the King" (Gaul); quartet, "Noel" (Maristow); tenor solo, "Nazareth" (Gounod); quartet, "Blessed Is He That Cometh" (Geffel); postlude, "Hosannah" (Wachs).

The soloists are: Soprano, Mrs. Maud Murphy; contralto, Miss Lillian Chenoweth; tenor, A. W. Homler; bass, Walter T. Matson. The organist and director is Mrs. Dorothy Baxter.



Casals and Bauer, who will appear in joint recital at the City Club Saturday evening.

Claque Raises Head Again in Lakeside City

THE claque, suppressed two years ago by the authorities of the Chicago Opera started to work again recently by approaching two new singers, Ina Bourskaya and Grace Holst.

Miss Holst, was called up several times on the telephone and heard a man's voice.

"I am a man of great importance to you," was the message she received, "for I can ruin your debut. Unless you give me \$100, I will have you hanged, and there will be so much disturbance that you cannot possibly make a good impression."

The offer to Miss Bourskaya was openly made by a man who told her he was "chief of the claque." Miss Bourskaya complained to Clarke A. Shaw, business manager of the Chicago Civic Opera Association. He advised her to refuse to give the man anything.

Honor Memory of Stephen C. Foster

FIFTY-NINE years ago next January 13 Stephen C. Foster, American composer, died in a charity ward of a New York hospital. Inasmuch as Foster's songs form the backbone of the repertoire for community singing in this country, those interested in community music will pay a tribute to the composer. This memorial is taking the form of a Foster Day on January 13. It is to be celebrated by schools, clubs and other groups in many cities.

The special feature is to be a performance of a Stephen C. Foster program, outlined in a bulletin issued by Community Service from its headquarters in New York. It consists of the narrative by a speaker of significant facts in Foster's life; the singing of twelve of his songs by the audience, soloists and choral groups, and the illustrating of certain of the songs through pantomime and tableaux.

Local community service organizations are co-operating with the public schools, women's clubs and other groups through helping them to prepare the musical and dramatic features of the celebration. The date is especially suitable for the public schools in that it gives them time to put on the finishing touches of the program following their Christmas recess.

Miss Gertrude Henneman, the young pianist, is on a concert tour which takes her into Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Mississippi, Texas, Kansas, Iowa and Ohio. She will be back in Washington around the end of January.

Choral Art Society to Offer "Messiah"

THE Choral Art Society of Washington, George Harold Miller, director, will present "The Messiah" at Central High School Thursday evening, with the Washington College of Music orchestra, C. E. Christiani, conductor, accompanying. The soloists will be: Mrs. Ethel Holtzclaw Gawler, soprano; Miss Ritchie McLean, contralto; James K. Young, tenor, and George H. Miller, baritone. There will also be soprano and contralto solos accompanied by H. H. Freeman at the organ.

The oratorio will start promptly at 8 o'clock, and the doors will open at 7 o'clock. The public is invited. There will be no cards of admission and no reserved seats.

A collection will be taken to defray the expenses of presenting this beautiful oratorio to the public of Washington.

Christmas Carols At Sunday Concert

THE Community Music Association is presenting a carol concert as the eighth event of the Sunday night series of free musicales at Central High Community Center.

The program prepared is in keeping with the Christmas season and will be featured by the chorus of the Women's City Club, a children's chorus of 200 voices, the Army Music School brass quartette, the Misses Elizabeth and Mary Keyes in half and violin numbers, and Robert Lawrence in a baritone solo, assisted by a vocal quartette.

The songs for the audience will include several well-known Christmas carols, hymns, patriotic songs and the most popular of the home favorites.

The Sunday night community orchestra will assist with the community singing, which will, as usual, be directed by Robert Lawrence, assisted at the piano by Helen Burkart.

The concert will begin promptly at 8:15 o'clock, with doors opening at 7 o'clock.

Sculptor Exhibits Portrait of Editor

NATALIE WOLFE, the well-known San Francisco sculptor, has won a place in the thirty-fifth annual exhibition of the Chicago Art Institute with a relief portrait of John C. Freund, editor of Musical America. This work was accepted by the jury of selection in competition with 900 paintings and pieces of sculpture submitted by artists in all parts of America. The relief shows Mr. Freund in profile and is the latest work of Miss Wolfe.

It was while Miss Wolfe was a student at the Polytechnic High School, from which she graduated, that her sculpture began to attract attention.

"GOLDEN BOUGH" IN SINGLE VOLUME

Sir James George Frazer's Monumental Work, Originally Issued in Twelve Volumes, Now Printed in One.

By AMES KENDRICK.
NOW and then, as opportunity presents, it is one of our chiefest delights to put away from us everything in the line of books that smacks of the modern, and in the seclusion of our cloister revel in the works of bygone days. But yesterday we felt one of these spells coming upon us, and retiring to our cave we spent the better part of the afternoon in company with Sir John Froisart, and later on Milton.

As we turned the pages of our dust-covered copy of "Paradise Lost," we could not but reflect upon the fate that attends all books. Take the case of this epic. No library is complete without a copy of it; and its inclusion in so many of the inexpensive series of classics would indicate that there are few homes that do not possess a copy of it. Nevertheless, one cannot help wondering whether the poem is much read outside of prescribed courses in schools and colleges.

Still, in the eighteenth century, there is no doubt that "Paradise Lost" was a best seller. According to Prof. Raymond D. Haven's study, "The Influence of Milton," that century saw the publication of 105 separate editions of the poem, and this figure, the learned author assures us, does not include versions in prose, selections, publications outside the British Isles, and numerous adaptations and translations.

In passing, for information of those interested in Milton, Prof. Haven's book, for which we are indebted to the Harvard University Press, just about says the last word on Milton that need be said for years to come. It is full of information about Eighteenth and Nineteenth century poetry, and it is written in such agreeable style that he who comes merely to consult a book of reference will find himself spending hours browsing through its pages. It is the kind of critical work, brilliant and thoroughly alive in spite of its heavily documented pages, that will go far to wrest from German and English authorities the primacy they have long held in literary investigation.

SIR JAMES GEORGE FRAZER'S "The Golden Bough" (Macmillan) is a remarkable book, the primary aim of which is to explain the rule which regulated the succession to the priesthood of Diana at Aricia. Originally published in twelve volumes, the author has condensed into one large book the account of the origin of many forms of superstition and religion among primitive races.

To have the twelve books of this wonderful treasure house of legends, myths, and superstitions reduced to the compass of a single volume seems as incredible as it is delightful. Yet, in one great book we have the fascinating pageant of primitive thought and early religious customs, the whole range of anthropological and folk-lore literature of classical and Oriental legend.

Among the subjects covered in the volume are the principles of magic and its relation to religion in history; the evolution of the kingship; the worship of trees and cereals; the propitiation of game and fish by savage hunters and fishers; the principles of taboo; the life and violent death of human gods; the custom of the scapegoat; the fire festivals of Europe; and the theory and practice of the external soul.

Although the bulk of the book has been greatly reduced, its leading principals have been retained, together with an amount of evidence sufficient to illustrate them clearly. In the preface, we are assured that new matter has not been added nor have the views expressed in the last edition been altered in the abridgment.

"RED BUD WOMEN," by Mark O'Dea (Stewart), is a series of four one-act plays which has aroused a great deal of comment. Each play deals with a different aspect of woman's life in the Midwest, among the "Peasants." In short, tense drama the barrenness of their lives, physically, mentally, and spiritually, is unfolded, together with their blind struggles against the hardness of their men folk, who, without compassion or understanding, would use them merely as mothers of peasants.



Her New Novel, "The Judge," is a study of the influence upon a man of wife and mother.

Robert Shackleton Explores Our Town

THE BOOK OF WASHINGTON, By Robert Shackleton. Philadelphia: The Penn Publishing Co.

HOW often has your native Washingtonian been compelled to confess his dearth of knowledge of the location and history of points of national significance here; how often has he been forced to sit back and listen to the glib recitals of the typical tourist, who manages to pick up within the short space of a few days more detailed information about the Nation's Capital city than is possessed by the average resident of a quarter of a century's standing. Many a Washingtonian thus driven to desperation has ardently vowed that some day he will board a sight-seeing vehicle and find out for himself "where, perhaps, the Italian embassy may be located, what particular style of architecture the Scottish Rite Temple represents, or quite possibly, the location of the Octagon House."

For several years Robert Shackleton, traveler extraordinary, has specialized in the publication of elaborate volumes pertaining to the charms of great American cities. "The Book of Chicago," "The Book of New York," "The Book of Boston" and "The Book of Philadelphia" have now been followed by "The Book of Washington," and each is written in a charming and fascinating style that causes them to be read with the same avidity that would be accorded a "best seller." Even to one supplied with more than the average amount of information concerning Washington, its history, its traditions and its present-day affairs and edifices, this volume will come as a distinct and pleasant surprise, and would appear to represent years, rather than months, of research.

Mr. Shackleton has a most engaging style, and his narrative always runs smoothly; at times it is lightened by naive touches of humor. Physically, the volume is a gem. It is well and tastefully bound with a medallion decorated cover in gold and colors. It is illustrated with scores of beautiful photographs, sketches and vignettes. It does not pretend to be a guide book, as might appear, but is, in fact, a history of the city from the very day of its foundation up to the present time, with intimate details of its growth and of the lives of the famous men whose affairs were interwoven with it.

Big Joe, appearing only humorous and unusual at first, finally grows exceedingly tiresome with his cut-and-dried theory that all things in this world (or rather that age) "are fixed" and thus inevitable. This ridiculous reasoning is allowed to remain intact through the story.

Boys, to whom the book is presented, will undoubtedly get much satisfaction in "exploiting east of the Ohio" with Amos Hart and Nathan Mason, under the guiding hand of Big Joe.

In his remarkable novel, "The Cathedral," Hugh Walpole presents a study of power and human destiny in widening circles. The conquest of power over a man's character is merely the sharp focus for an intimation of power that uses all men's lives. In the foreground we have Archdeacon Brandon, ruler of the cathedral and the cathedral town; behind him we have the town itself; back of the town lies the Giebeshire country; back of Giebeshire, England; beyond England the world of men and affairs, all moving with set purposes.

A Regular Thriller About Mad Anthony

SCOUTING WITH MAD ANTHONY, By Everett T. Tomlinson. New York: D. Appleton & Co. \$1.75 net.

THIS is a thrilling (thrilling, at least, to the general run of red-blooded boys under twelve years of age) episode of the French and Indian war which was eventually and effectually squelched by that daring commander, "Mad" Anthony Wayne. Mad Anthony, however, figures in but one skirmish throughout the narrative.

The story is woven around two inseparable, one Amos Hart and Nathan Mason, both proteges of the typical story-book trapper, "Big Joe." These boys, the author would have you believe, are richly endowed with all the requisites peculiar to one who would survive Indian ambushes, massacres, tortures, etc., but are surprisingly slow to respond to the jeers, insults and atrocities handed them. This is particularly true with regard to Amos, who, having been kidnapped by the Indians, finally winds his way back to civilization.

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RAYMOND HOLDEN, author of "Granite and Alabaster" (Macmillan), is a new poet of marked individuality, who finds his favorite theme in the relation of man to nature. Typical scenes from rural life serve as the inspiration for poems of man's moods as affected by the varying aspects of forest and mountain. "The White Deer of Windbrook," a vivid story of passion and tragedy in a wind-swept, lonely country, is rivaled in force and beauty by "Rock Fowler," with its strong imaginative power, and all his work shows the poet an earnest seeker after the truth in nature and the heart of man.

WYETH PAINTINGS FOR NEW BOOK MAGNIFICENT

Conan Doyle's "White Company" Lends Itself Admirably to Genius of Great Artist in Cosmopolitan Book.

"THE WHITE COMPANY," by Arthur Conan Doyle, with illustrations by N. C. Wyeth. New York: Cosmopolitan Book Corporation. \$2.50.

FOR the past three years it has been the annual custom of the Cosmopolitan Book Corporation to publish some literary classic in a form and style notable for its beauty, with elaborate color plates, representing the work of some famous master of the pen and brush. First came De Foe's "Robinson Crusoe," followed last year by Dickens' "A Tale of Two Cities." "The White Company," Conan Doyle's impressive tale of medieval England, was the subject selected for this year, and the work of illustrating it in conformity with Cosmopolitan's standards, was assigned to N. C. Wyeth.

Evidently, Wyeth put both heart and soul back of his genius, making the project truly a labor of love, for the results show a marvelously beautiful collection of full page illustrations, marked by daring sweeps of color, such as one has come to associate with the brush work of that other master, Maxfield Parrish. It is evident that the artist found that the tale, in view of the picturesque period which it represents, lent itself admirably to the full scope of his palette.

The cover, binding, paper and printing of this remarkable edition of "The White Company" are all in keeping with the high character of the illustrations and Cosmopolitan is to be congratulated upon the care that has been taken in its production and presentation. It is well entitled to a place in anyone's library and commends itself as a gift book for any season of the year.

IN England the court has sustained the action brought against the author of "Timothy Tubby's Journal" because of his latest novel, "Heaven's Holocaust." The novel may not now be sold in the British Isles or on ships flying the red ensign. The court held that most of the so-called daring passages in the novel were quite all right, but then pronounced adversely because, in the effort for realism, Tubby had used the adjective "bloody" here and there through the book. This, it was held, was going too far. An offer by the English publishers to replace the offending word with "milk-and-water" was rejected by the court on the ground that the change would be unduly conspicuous. Tubby now goes down to posterity with James Branch Cabell and D. H. Lawrence, but may, of course, come up again.

REBECCA WEST, whose novel, "The Judge," is having a remarkable sale and has already passed 10,000 copies, has arranged for a lecture tour of the United States and Canada in 1923.

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